

2ND ANNUAL MARYLAND \$1,000,000 FISHING CHALLENGE



THE RETURN OF

DIAMOND IM



FROM THE MARYLAND MOUNTAINS TO THE EASTERN SHORE JUNE 3 - SEPTEMBER 4, 2006

www.dnr.maryland.gov

BOATER'S WORLD
Marine Centers

TOYOTA



SALE FISH

TRACKER
boats

MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES



96 ROCK
SportsTalk
960

99.9 WFRE
FREE COUNTRY
930 WFMD
Frederick's News Radio

FROGGY
99.9
WPOC
93.1
Baltimore's Country Station

THE WAVE
92.1
SportsTalk
980

2nd Annual Maryland \$1,000,000 Fishing Challenge

Striped Bass



State Record
Nontidal - 47 lbs. 2 oz. - 9/14/00 by Robert Bruce
Tidal - 67 lbs. 8 oz. - 5/13/95 by Devin Nolan



Channel Catfish
State Record
Nontidal - 27 lbs. 10 oz. - 10/20/83
Tidal - 29 lbs. 1 oz. - 4/26/97



Rainbow Trout
State Record
14 lbs. 3 oz. - 10/21/87



Brown Trout
State Record
18 lbs. 3 oz. - 8/3/01



Atlantic Croaker
State Record
6 lbs. 3 oz. - 7/9/80



Smallmouth Bass
State Record
Nontidal - 8 lbs. 4 oz. - 10/4/74
Tidal - 6 lbs. - 7/23/71



Largemouth Bass
State Record
Nontidal - 11 lbs. 2 oz. - 10/4/83
Tidal - 9 lbs. 1 oz. - 9/13/75



Crappie
State Record
4 lbs. 7 oz. - 5/30/04



White Perch
State Record
Nontidal - 1 lbs. 7 oz. - 4/16/03
Tidal - 2 lbs. 10 oz. - 5/18/79



Redear Sunfish
State Record
2 lbs. 5 oz. - 6/4/85



Bluegill
State Record
3 lbs. 7 oz. - 8/9/98

OFFICIAL RULES

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has created a fishing tournament program that educates the public, recognizes anglers and promotes recreational fishing opportunities in Maryland. Outlined below are the specifics on the 2nd Annual Maryland \$1,000,000 Fishing Challenge:

Rules

The fishing challenge will begin at 12:01 A.M., Saturday, June 3, 2006 and will end at 11:59 P.M., Monday, September 4, 2006.

1. Anyone is eligible. No registration fee is required. No minimum age.
2. If you are under 18 years of age, a parent or guardian must accompany you in the event you become a certified finalist and/or a winner.
3. Non-Maryland residents must comply with Maryland fishing regulations.
4. All anglers participating in the challenge must possess a valid Maryland fishing license, unless the following applies: catch the fish from a licensed charter boat, from a private recreational vessel with a license sticker that covers all passengers on the boat, are under the age of 16, are fishing in designated "License Free Fishing Area," or catch the fish during one of Maryland's "Free Fishing Days."
5. All fish must be caught on rod and reel in a manner prescribed by the International Game Fish Association.
6. The use of circle hooks is strongly encouraged.
7. The catch must be lawful. Anglers should be aware of the rules pertaining to fishing and eligible sizes of fish at all times. Fish that have been snagged, shot, gaffed, speared, scaled, or mutilated are not eligible.
8. Any tagged fish caught on hook and line outside Maryland waters is not eligible for the fish challenge or any prizes associated with the challenge.
9. The Maryland \$1,000,000 Fishing Challenge reserves the right to refuse any entry, if the tagged fish was caught illegally, the tag was removed before the fish was inspected (applies to Diamond Jim striped bass only) or the angler was not properly licensed. The decision by Maryland DNR will be final.
10. DNR employees and their immediate family (spouse, child, sibling, parent, grand-

parent or grandchild) are not eligible to enter the fish challenge.

11. There is no limit to the number of tagged fish you can catch. If you happen to catch three fish and they all qualify, your name will be entered three times for the final prize drawings.

Where to Fish

1. Fish will be released throughout the entire Maryland portion of the Chesapeake Bay, its tidal tributaries, and the inland waters of Maryland. Tagged fish will be released in every county in the state.
2. Hundreds of the following fish will be tagged for this year's fish challenge: Striped bass (rockfish), Atlantic croaker, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, white perch, crappie, rainbow trout, brown trout, channel catfish, and all species of sunfish.
3. There are no fishing location restrictions when fishing in the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries other than all fish must be caught in Maryland waters.
4. Fish caught in inland lakes, impoundments and streams are subject to prevailing laws, such as restricted fishing hours, boat restrictions, and areas where fishing is not allowed. View regulations here: www.dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/stocking/2006MSFG_LRnote.pdf
5. Two different colored tags will be used for the fish challenge:
 - A green tag will be placed on hundreds of fish (see list above for fish species) around the State. The green tag will have the words "MD \$1,000,000 Fishing Challenge," "Expires 09/04/06", "Keep Tag," and the phone number 1-410-693-7706.
 - A neon green tag will be placed on a select number of striped bass that are part of the "Diamond Jim" promotion. If the tag is removed, the catch will be disqualified. The neon green fish tag will have the words "MD \$1,000,000 Fishing Challenge," "Diamond Jim", "Ineligible if tag removed" and the phone number 1-410-693-7706.

Entering Your Catch

1. A green tag will be placed on hundreds of fish (see list above for fish species) around the State. If you catch a fish with this tag, please annotate the time, location (GPS coordinates preferred), tag number, fish type, approximate length and weight. Call the number on the tag to record your catch. You will receive instructions on where

to bring your tag for verification. The fish can be released once the tag is removed. The green fish tag will have the words "MD \$1,000,000 Fishing Challenge," "Expires 09/04/06", "Keep Tag," and the phone number 1-410-693-7706.

2. A neon green tag will be placed on a select number of striped bass that are part of the "Diamond Jim" promotion. If this fish is caught, please annotate the time, location (GPS coordinates preferred) and tag number and call the number on the tag. A DNR Fisheries biologist MUST physically receive and examine the striped bass with the tag still attached for the fish to be eligible. If the tag is removed, the catch will be disqualified. The neon green fish tag will have the words "MD \$1,000,000 Fishing Challenge," "Diamond Jim", "Ineligible if tag removed" and the phone number 1-410-693-7706.
3. Upon catching either a neon green or green tagged fish, call the phone number on the tag and provide your name, your contact phone number, the fish tag number and location (address) where you will be for the next 24 hours. You will receive a return phone call with specific directions on the next steps to enter your fish into the fish challenge.
4. If it is a green tag: Note the time, location (GPS coordinates preferred), tag number, fish type, approximate length and weight. The fish can be released once the tag is removed. The green tag will have the words "MD \$1,000,000 Fishing Challenge," "Expires 09/04/06" and "Keep Tag."
5. If it is a neon green tag: note the time, location (GPS coordinates preferred) and tag number and call the number on the tag. **You MUST have the fish in your possession with the tag attached** when the certified DNR Fisheries biologist inspects your fish. Removing the fish tag before the DNR biologist inspects the fish will result in automatic disqualification. All entries will be measured, weighed and photographed by a DNR Fisheries Biologist. The neon green fish tag will have the words "MD \$1,000,000 Fishing Challenge," "Diamond Jim", "Ineligible if tag removed." If you are a winner, you will be asked to complete a winner's affidavit. In addition, the challenge officials may conduct an investigation including, but not limited to, requiring the winner and a witness to

complete a polygraph examination if such action is warranted before the prize is awarded.

6. If the fish has the green tag, you must have the tag in your possession and the data on the fish when you turn in your fish tag.
7. You must provide your contact information (and those of your parent or guardian, if you are under 18 years of age) and your fishing license (if applicable) at the time of the inspection.
8. DNR must certify that you are qualified before your name will be entered into the final prize drawing.

Awards

1. You will be notified by DNR within 72 hours of having your fish and/or fish tag inspected if you are eligible to participate in the Maryland \$1,000,000 Fish Challenge prize giveaway.
2. On or about September 9th in Annapolis, Md. (tentative date and location) a drawing will be held where five winners will be selected at random from all eligible finalists to receive one of these prizes: Playing for a \$1,000,000 (\$25,000 cash paid annually over 40 years) (Winning odds 1 in 65), a 2006 Toyota Tacoma 4x4 pickup truck, a second 2006 Toyota Tacoma 4x4 pickup truck, a 20' center console Sailfish 206CC motorboat with a 115 HP Yamaha 4-stroke outboard motor and an aluminum boat trailer, or a 18' 7" Nitro 591 motorboat with a 135 HP Mercury Optimax outboard motor and trailer.
3. Final contestants must be physically present to participate in the drawing and subsequent prize give-away. No substitutions will be accepted. If your name is selected and you are not in present, another name will be randomly selected.
4. By participating in the Maryland \$1,000,000 Fishing Challenge, you agree to be mentioned by name in the media (i.e. newspaper, television, radio, etc) and photographed for use during Fishing Challenge promotions.
5. Each winner is responsible for paying any and all taxes on any prize(s) won and must authorize the deduction of such taxes, if any from the prize(s) to the extent required by law.

Questions regarding the Maryland \$1,000,000 Fishing Challenge should be directed to 1-877-620-8DNR or via e-mail at customerservice@dnr.state.md.us.

Fish artwork by Duane Raver/USFWS